



USDA/NASS
New Mexico Field Office

Weekly Ag Update

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Issue 57-11

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE - MARCH 12, 2007

Crop Weather Annual Livestock Slaughter Livestock, Dairy and Outlook

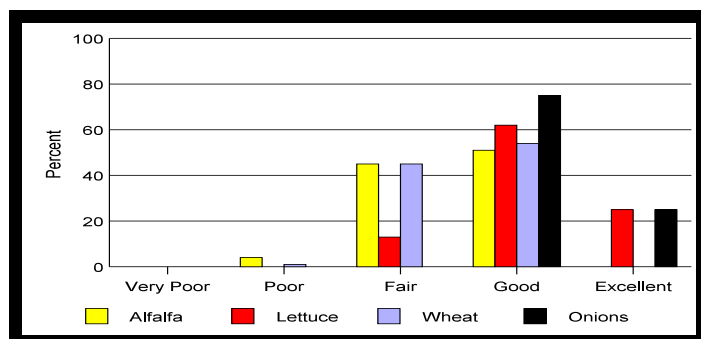
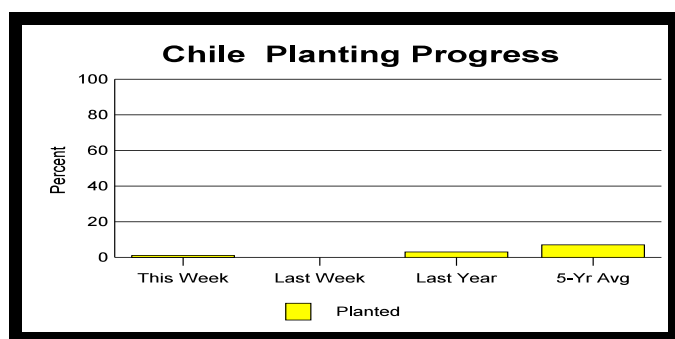
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CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 11, 2007

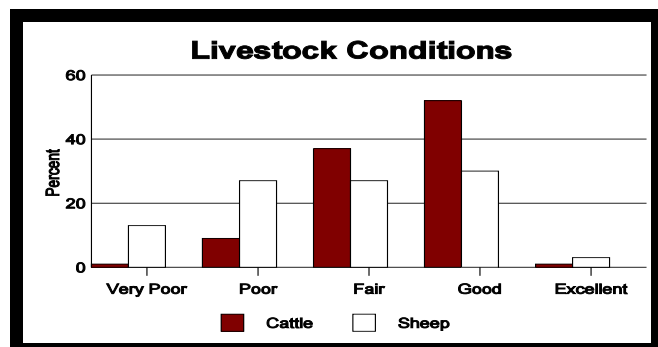
NEW MEXICO: There were 7 days suitable for field work. Topsoil moisture was 10% very short, 42% short, 45% adequate and 3% surplus. Wind damage was 22% light and 4% moderate. Freeze damage was reported as 18% light and 3% moderate. Farmers spent the week preparing their fields for planting and irrigating. Alfalfa was reported as 4% poor, 45% fair and 51% good. Irrigated winter wheat was reported as 16% fair and 84% good with 69% grazed. Dry winter wheat was reported as 1% poor, 65% fair and 34% good with 63% grazed. Total winter wheat was reported as 1% poor, 45% fair and 54% good with 65% grazed. Lettuce was reported as 13% fair, 62% good and 25% excellent. Onion conditions were reported as 75% good and 25% excellent with 95% planted. Chile was reported as 1% planted. Cattle conditions were reported as 1% very poor, 9% poor, 37% fair, 52% good and 1% excellent. Sheep conditions were reported as 13% very poor, 27% poor, 27% fair, 30% good and 3% excellent. Range and pasture conditions were reported as 3% very poor, 13% poor, 48% fair, 32% good and 4% excellent. Ranchers are supplemental feeding, calving and moving cattle.

CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
CHILE	Planted	1	N/A	3	7
ONIONS	Planted	95	N/A	N/A	N/A
WHEAT	Grazed	13	N/A	13	N/A

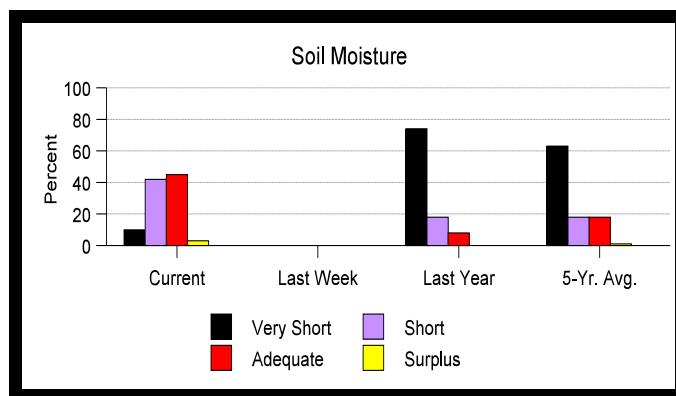


CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES					
	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	---	4	45	51	---
Lettuce	---	---	13	62	25
Onions	---	---	---	75	25
Wheat (All)	---	1	45	54	---
Cattle	1	9	37	52	1
Sheep	13	27	27	30	3
Range/Pasture	3	13	48	32	4



SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	8	40	46	6
Northeast	9	49	42	---
Southwest	10	35	55	---
Southeast	20	32	43	5
State Current	10	42	45	3
State-Last Week	---	---	---	---
State-Last Year	74	18	8	---
State-5-Yr Avg.	63	18	18	1



WEATHER SUMMARY

It was a relatively-warm week in New Mexico, with temperatures averaging about 3 degrees above normal for the state. However, this ranged from anomalies of 4 to 8 degrees above normal over much of the north to around normal or even slightly cooler than normal in the southeast. The main weather feature of the week was a storm system that developed over the east late Saturday and Sunday. This system brought patches of rain to the southeast, although Tatum (.26") was the only spot that measured over one quarter inch. Precipitation totals for the year will reflect changes as the February totals were updated.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS - MARCH 5 - 11, 2007

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	03/05 03/11	03/01 03/11	Normal Mar.	01/01 03/11	Normal Jan-Mar
Farmington	46.1	65	23	0.10	0.14	0.81	1.15	1.97
Gallup	43.4	66	17	0.00	0.00	1.05	1.41	2.59
Capulin	41.5	61	21	0.00	0.00	0.89	1.58	1.85
Chama	35.9	55	14	0.07	0.10	1.99	4.17	5.34
Johnson Ranch	43.9	62	18	0.00	0.00	0.74	1.26	1.98
Las Vegas	44.7	70	22	0.00	0.00	0.63	1.73	1.71
Los Alamos	42.1	60	14	0.00	0.01	1.22	1.61	2.88
Raton	43.9	70	18	0.00	0.01	0.83	0.49	1.84
Red River	34.6	56	8	0.00	0.41	1.78	3.50	4.07
Santa Fe	43.2	66	17	0.00	0.00	0.74	0.99	2.06
Clayton	50.8	71	28	0.00	0.00	0.55	0.62	1.10
Clovis	52.6	75	27	0.00	0.00	0.59	1.42	1.49
Roy	45.9	70	21	0.00	0.00	0.55	0.60	1.32
Tucumcari	53.1	76	28	0.04	0.05	0.40	0.91	1.13
Grants	41.1	66	12	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.83	1.50
Quemado	41.3	68	10	0.00	0.00	0.80	1.39	2.35
Albuquerque	49.6	67	26	0.00	0.00	0.54	0.88	1.44
Carrizozo	50.0	72	28	0.00	0.00	0.57	2.04	1.74
Socorro	47.9	73	13	0.03	0.03	0.27	0.50	1.05
Gran Quivera	47.4	68	22	0.00	0.00	0.72	1.38	2.24
Moriarty	42.0	69	10	0.00	0.00	0.53	0.90	1.44
Ruidoso	42.6	66	12	0.00	0.00	1.33	4.49	3.61
Carlsbad	55.9	84	22	0.02	0.02	0.30	2.10	1.00
Roswell	49.1	80	14	0.00	0.00	0.45	1.57	1.34
Tatum	47.8	79	18	0.26	0.26	0.52	1.43	1.41
Alamogordo	57.9	75	31	0.00	0.00	0.46	1.97	1.67
Animas	54.7	78	26	0.00	0.00	0.47	1.61	1.66
Deming	55.6	80	22	0.00	0.00	0.34	1.29	1.36
Las Cruces	54.6	81	23	0.00	0.00	0.22	1.46	1.05
T or C	53.9	76	22	0.00	0.00	0.34	1.11	1.18

(T) Trace (-) No Report (*) Correction

All reports based on preliminary data. Precipitation data corrected monthly from official observation forms.

LIVESTOCK AND DAIRY OUTLOOK

USDA, ERS, FEBRUARY 20, 2007

Cattle/Beef: On February 2, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service released its January 1, 2006, estimates of cattle and calf inventories in its semiannual *Cattle* report. The report included some significant revisions of January 1, 2006, inventories, and calf crops for 2005 and 2006 were also revised downward. Record numbers for the series beginning in 1996 of January 1 cattle on feed on 1,000-plus feedlots (*Cattle on Feed* report released on January 26, 2007), highest feeder cattle supplies outside feedlots since 2003, and heaviest second-half-year commercial cow slaughter since 2003 were all based on smaller total cow inventories and calf crops than previously thought. Higher corn prices are expected to prevail in 2007, exerting downward pressure on feeder cattle prices. Snowstorms and cold weather in the Plains continue to deplete cow-calf producers' hay stocks and hamper growth of feedlot cattle.

Beef and Cattle Trade: Cattle imports totaled 2.289 million head in 2006, up 26 percent from 2005, reflecting the first full calendar year of cattle imports from Canada since 2002. Beef imports in the fourth quarter totaled 722 million pounds, down 9 percent from the same period in 2005. Total 2006 beef imports were down 14 percent from 2005, reflecting high U.S. domestic cow slaughter in response to drought conditions, shifting export patterns among major South American exporters, and displacement of Canadian beef imports by Canadian cattle imports. U.S. beef exports totaled 1.153 billion pounds in 2006, up 65 percent from 2005, driven mainly by record exports to Mexico of 668 million pounds.

Dairy: Despite slightly lower cow numbers, increased productivity is expected to boost milk production in 2007 to 184.3 billion pounds. However, buoyant demand, both foreign and domestic, will lead to sharply higher prices for milk and dairy products in 2007 compared with 2006.

Sheep/Lamb: After 2 straight years of increases, sheep inventory growth was hampered by drought conditions in the Southwestern United States, especially Texas and New Mexico, and in California. The NASS *Sheep and Goats* report shows the inventory of all sheep and lambs decreased in 2006, down 1 percent to 6.19 million head, a 45,000-head decline from a year earlier. Breeding sheep inventory decreased fractionally from a year ago from 4.64 to 4.62 million head but the smaller 2006 lamb crop is expected to result in further production declines for 2007 with production expected at 182 million pounds. As a result, slaughter lamb prices are expected to remain strong for 2007 and average around \$83-\$87 per hundredweight (cwt).

Hogs/Pork: USDA increased its estimate for first-quarter 2007 hog prices to \$44-\$46 per cwt, largely due to strong demand conditions. For the year, live equivalent prices of 51-52 percent lean hogs are expected to range between \$44 and \$46 per cwt. for the first quarter of 2006 are expected to stabilize between \$93 and \$95 per hundredweight (cwt).

ANNUAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

NEW MEXICO: Commercial cattle slaughter during 2006 totaled 11,000 head, down from 11,500 slaughtered during 2005. The average live weight was 977 pounds. Commercial hog slaughter totaled 1,800 head compared to 2,000 in 2005. The average live weight dropped from 300 pounds to 265 pounds. Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter dropped by 40% to 8,900 head in 2006. The average live weight for 2006 was 125 pounds compared to 120 pounds in 2005.

UNITED STATES: Commercial cattle slaughter during 2006 totaled 33.7 million head, up 4 percent from 2005, with federal inspection comprising 98.4 percent of the total. The average live weight was 1,275 pounds, up 19 pounds from a year ago. Commercial hog slaughter totaled 104.7 million head, 1 percent higher than 2005 with 99.0 percent of the hogs slaughtered under federal inspection. The average live weight was unchanged from last year, at 269 pounds. Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter, at 2.70 million head, was up slightly from the previous year with 94.4 percent comprised by federal inspection. The average live weight was down 1 pound from 2005 to 137 pounds.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter, New Mexico and U.S., 2005-2006 ^{1/}

	New Mexico						United States					
	Number Slaughtered		Total Live weight		Average Live weight		Number Slaughtered		Total Live weight		Average Live weight	
	'05	'06	'05	'06	'05	'06	'05	'06	'05	'06	'05	'06
	<u>1,000 Head</u>		<u>1,000 Pounds</u>		<u>Pounds</u>		<u>1,000 Head</u>		<u>1,000 Pounds</u>		<u>Pounds</u>	
Cattle	11.5	11.0	11,478	10,346	994	977	32,387.7	33,698.3	40,688,693	42,819,688	1,256	1,275
Calves ^{2/}	---	---	---	---	---	---	734.4	711.3	259,371	243,608	353	345
Hogs	2.0	1.8	608	465	300	265	103,581.5	104,736.6	27,827,948	28,142,714	269	269
Sheep/Lambs	14.8	8.9	1,769	1,109	120	125	2,697.8	2,698.5	373,305	368,098	138	137

^{1/} Includes slaughter under Federal Inspection and other commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter. ^{2/} State data included in U.S. total. Data not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.